

Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection Source Water Assessment and Protection (SWAP) Report for

Cohasset Water Department

What is SWAP?

The Source Water Assessment Program (SWAP), established under the federal Safe Drinking Water Act, requires every state to:

- inventory land uses within the recharge areas of all public water supply sources;
- assess the susceptibility of drinking water sources to contamination from these land uses; and
- publicize the results to provide support for improved protection.

Table 1: Public Water System Information

PWS Name	Cohasset Water Department			
PWS Address	339 King Street			
City/Town	Cohasset, Massachusetts 02025			
PWS ID Number	3065000			
Local Contact	George F. Hawksley			
Phone Number	(781) 383-0057			

Susceptibility and Water Quality

Susceptibility is a measure of a water supply's potential to become contaminated due to land uses and activities within its recharge area.

A source's susceptibility to contamination does *not* imply poor water quality.

Water suppliers protect drinking water by monitoring for more than 100 chemicals, disinfecting, filtering, or treating water supplies, and using source protection measures to ensure that safe water is delivered to the tap.

Actual water quality is best reflected by the results of regular water tests. To learn more about your water quality, refer to your water supplier's annual Consumer Confidence Reports.

Introduction

We are all concerned about the quality of the water we drink. Drinking water sources may be threatened by many potential contaminant sources, including storm runoff, road salting, and improper disposal of hazardous materials. Citizens and local officials can work together to better protect these drinking water sources.

Purpose of this report:

This report is a planning tool to support local and state efforts to improve water supply protection. By identifying land uses within water supply protection areas that may be potential sources of contamination, the assessment helps focus protection efforts on appropriate best management practices (BMPs) and drinking water source protection measures.

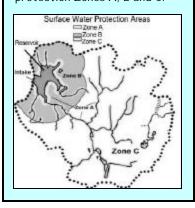
Refer to Table 3 for Recommendations to address potential sources of contamination. Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) staff are available to provide information about funding and other resources that may be available to your community.

This report includes the following sections:

- 1. Description of the Water System
- 2. Land Uses within Protection Areas
- 3. Source Water Protection
- 4. Appendices

What is a Watershed?

A watershed is the land area that catches and drains rainwater down-slope into a river, lake or reservoir. As water travels down from the watershed area it may carry contaminants from the watershed to the drinking water supply source. For protection purposes, watersheds are divided into protection Zones A. B and C.



Section 1: Description of the Water System

Surface Water Sources					
Source Name Source ID # Susceptibility					
Aaron River Reservoir	3065000-01S	High			
Lily Pond	3065000-02S	High			

The reservoirs for the Cohasset Water Department are located within a continuous water supply protection area, with portions extending into the towns of Hingham, Norwell, and Scituate. The Town is presently seeking to reactivate the Ellms Meadow Wellfield.

For current information on monitoring results and treatment, please contact the Public Water System contact person listed above in Table 1 for a copy of the most recent Consumer Confidence Report. Drinking water monitoring reporting data is also available on the web at http://www.epa.gov/safewater/ccr1.html

Section 2: Land Uses in the Protection Areas

Cohasset's watershed lands are primarily a mixture of forest and residential land use, with smaller portions consisting of cropland, commercial, and industrial land uses, sand and gravel mining, and other land uses (refer to attached map for details). Land uses and activities that are potential sources of contamination are listed in Table 2, with further detail provided in the Table of Regulated Facilities and Table of Underground Storage Tanks in Appendix B.

Key Land Uses and Protection Issues include:

- 1. Activities in Zone A
- 2. Residential Land Uses
- 3. Transportation Corridors
- 4. Hazardous Materials Storage and Use
- 5. Agricultural Activities
- 6. Oil or Hazardous Material Contamination Sites
- 7. Comprehensive Wellhead Protection Planning

The overall ranking of susceptibility to contamination for the system is high, based on the presence of at least one high threat land use within the water supply protection areas, as seen in Table 2.

1. Activities in Zone A - Land use activities within Cohasset's Zone As which, if managed improperly may have an impact on surface water sources include: numerous homes with on-site septic systems; residential storage of heating oil; local roads; chemical storage; and stormwater runoff. Wild animals and domestic pets can be carriers of waterborne diseases such as Giardia, Cryptosporidium, Salmonella, etc.

Zone A Recommendations:

- ✓ To the extent possible, remove all activities from the Zone As to comply with DEP's Zone A requirements.
- ✓ Use BMPs for the storage, use, and disposal of hazardous materials such as water supply chemicals and maintenance chemicals.
- ✓ Storage of pesticides, fertilizers or road salt within the Zone A should be covered and contained.
- ✓ Keep any new prohibited activities out of the Zone A.
- ✓ Work with local officials during their review of the railroad right of way Yearly Operating Plans to ensure that water supplies are protected during vegetation control.

Glossary Protection Zones

Zone A: is the most critical for protection efforts. It is the area 400 feet from the edge of the reservoir and 200 feet from the edge of the tributaries (rivers and/or streams) draining into it.

Zone B: is the area one-half mile from the edge of the reservoir but does not go beyond the outer edge of the watershed.

Zone C: is the remaining area in the watershed not designated as Zones A or B.

The attached map shows Zone A and your watershed boundary.

- ✓ Identify stormwater drains and the drainage system along transportation corridors. Work to better manage stormwater by pre-treating contaminated stormwater and/or redirecting stormwater outside of the Zone A.
- **2. Residential Land Uses** Approximately 12% of the water supply protection area consists of residential areas. Some of the areas have public sewers, and some use septic systems. If managed improperly, activities associated with residential areas can contribute to drinking water contamination. Common potential sources of contamination include:
- **Septic Systems** Improper disposal of household hazardous chemicals to septic systems is a potential source of contamination to the groundwater because septic systems lead to the ground. If septic systems fail or are not properly maintained they can be a potential source of microbial contamination.

What are "BMPs?"

Best Management Practices (BMPs) are measures that are used to protect and improve surface water and groundwater quality. BMPs can be <u>structural</u>, such as oil & grease trap catch basins, <u>nonstructural</u>, such as hazardous waste collection days or <u>managerial</u>, such as employee training on proper disposal procedures.

- Household Hazardous Materials Hazardous materials may include automotive wastes, paints, solvents, pesticides, fertilizers, and other substances. Improper use, storage, and disposal of chemical products used in homes are potential sources of contamination.
- **Heating Oil Storage** If managed improperly, Underground and Aboveground Storage Tanks (USTs and ASTs) can be potential sources of contamination due to leaks or spills of the fuel oil they store.
- Stormwater Catch basins transport stormwater from roadways and adjacent properties to the ground. As
 flowing stormwater travels, it picks up debris and contaminants from streets and lawns. Common potential
 contaminants include lawn chemicals, pet waste, and contaminants from automotive leaks, maintenance, washing,
 or accidents.

Residential Land Use Recommendations:

- ✓ Educate residents on best management practices (BMPs) for protecting water supplies. Distribute the fact sheet "Residents Protect Drinking Water" available in Appendix A and on www.mass.gov/dep/brp/dws/protect.htm, which provides BMPs for common residential issues.
- ✓ Work with planners to control new residential developments in the water supply protection areas.
- **3. Transportation Corridors** State and local roads are common in the water supply protection areas. Roadway construction, maintenance, and typical highway use can all be potential sources of contamination. Accidents can lead to spills of gasoline and other potentially dangerous transported chemicals. Roadways are frequent sites for illegal dumping of hazardous or other potentially harmful wastes.

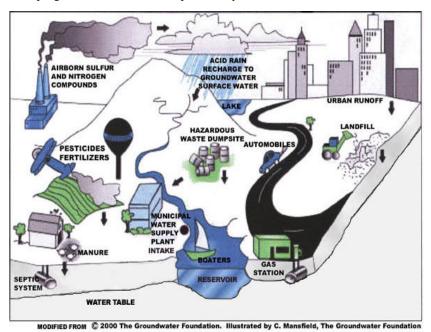


Figure 1: Sample watershed with examples of potential sources of contamination

Catch basins transport stormwater from roadways and adjacent properties to the ground. As flowing stormwater travels, it picks up debris and contaminants from streets and lawns. Common potential contaminants include contaminants from automotive leaks, maintenance, washing, or accidents.

Railroad tracks run through the watershed. Rail corridors serving passenger or freight trains are potential sources of contamination due to chemicals released during normal use, track maintenance, and accidents. Accidents can release spills of train engine fluids and commercially transported chemicals.

Transportation Corridor Recommendations:

✓ Regularly inspect watersheds for illegal dumping and spills.

- ✓ Work with local emergency response teams to ensure that any spills within the protection areas can be effectively contained.
- ✓ Work with the Town and State to have catch basins inspected, maintained, and cleaned on a regular schedule. Regular street sweeping reduces the amount of potential contaminants in runoff.
- ✓ If storm drainage maps are available, review the maps with emergency response teams. If maps aren't yet available, work with town officials to investigate mapping options such as the upcoming Phase II Stormwater Rule requiring some communities to complete stormwater mapping.
- ✓ Promote BMPs for stormwater management and pollution controls.
- ✓ Work with local officials during their review of the railroad right of way Yearly Operating Plans to ensure that water supplies are protected during vegetation control.
- **4. Hazardous Materials Storage and Use** A small portion of the water supply protection areas for Cohasset contains commercial or industrial land uses. Many small businesses and industries use hazardous materials, produce hazardous waste products, and/or store large quantities of hazardous materials in UST/AST. If hazardous materials are improperly stored, used, or disposed, they become potential sources of contamination. Hazardous materials should <u>never</u> be disposed of to a septic system or floor drain leading directly to the ground.

Hazardous Materials Storage and Use Recommendations:

- ✓ Educate local businesses on best management practices for protecting water supplies. Distribute the fact sheet "Businesses Protect Drinking Water" available in Appendix A and on www.mass.gov/dep/brp/dws/protect.htm, which provides BMPs for common business issues.
- Work with local businesses to register those facilities that are unregistered generators of hazardous waste or waste oil. Partnerships between businesses, water suppliers, and communities enhance successful public drinking water protection practices.

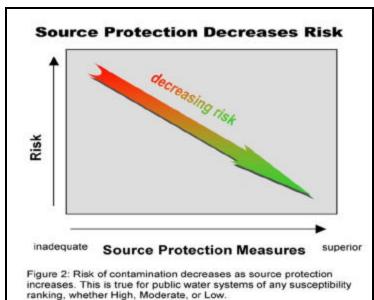
Benefits of Source Protection

Source Protection helps protect public health and is also good for fiscal fitness:

- Protects drinking water quality at the source
- Reduces monitoring costs through the DEP Waiver Program
- Treatment can be reduced or avoided entirely, saving treatment costs
- Prevents costly contamination clean-up
- Preventing contamination saves costs on water purchases, and expensive new source development

Contact your regional DEP office for more information on Source Protection and the Waiver Program.

- ✓ Educate local businesses on Massachusetts floor drain requirements. See brochure "Industrial Floor Drains" for more information.
- **5. Agricultural Activites** Approximately 1% of the water supply protection areas are crop land and pasture land, with other agricultural land uses. Pesticides and fertilizers have the potential to contaminate a drinking water source if improperly stored, applied, or disposed. If managed improperly, Underground and Aboveground Storage Tanks (USTs and ASTs) can be potential sources of contamination due to leaks or spills of the fuel oil they store.



Agricultural Activities Recommendations:

- Work with farmers in your protection areas to make them aware of your water supply and to encourage the use of a US Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) farm plan to protect water supplies.
- Encourage the farmers to incorporate an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) approach into their pest management program. IPM is an ecologically-based approach to pest control that links together several related components, including monitoring and scouting, biological controls, mechanical and/or other cultural practices, and pesticide applications. By combining a number of these different methods and practices, satisfactory pest control can be achieved with less impact on the environment.

Potential Source of Contamination vs. Actual Contamination

The activities listed in Table 2 are those that typically use, produce, or store contaminants of concern, which, <u>if managed improperly</u>, are potential sources of contamination (PSC).

It is important to understand that a release may never occur from the potential source of contamination provided facilities are using best management practices (BMPs). If BMPs are in place, the actual risk may be lower than the threat ranking identified in Table 2. Many potential sources of contamination are regulated at the federal, state and/or local levels, to further reduce the risk.

Table 2: Land Use in the Watershed

For more information, refer to Appendix B: Regulated Facilities within the Water Supply Protection Area

Land Uses	Quantity	Threat	Zone C Source ID#	Potential Contaminant Sources*
Agricultural				
Nurseries	1	M	01S	Leaks, spills, improper handling, or over-application of fertilizers, pesticides, and other chemicals
Commercial				
Body Shops	1	Н	01S	Improper management of vehicle paints, solvents, and primer products
Service Stations/ Auto Repair Shops	2	Н	01S	Spills, leaks, or improper handling of automotive fluids, and solvents
Cemeteries	2	M	01S	Leaks, spills, improper handling, or over-application of pesticides; historic embalming fluids
Repair Shops (Engine, Appliances, etc.)	1	Н	02S	Spills, leaks, or improper handling or storage of engine fluids, lubricants, and solvents
Industrial			•	
Hazardous Materials Storage	2	Н	02S	Spills, leaks, or improper handling or storage of hazardous materials
Residential				
Fuel Oil Storage (at residences)	Numerous	M	01S, 02S	Spills, leaks, or improper handling of fuel oil
Lawn Care/ Gardening	Numerous	M	01S, 02S	Over-application or improper storage and disposal of pesticides
Septic Systems/ Cesspools	Numerous	M	01S, 02S	Microbial contaminants, and improper disposal of hazardous chemicals
Miscellaneous				
Aquatic Wildlife	Numerous	L	01S, 02S	Microbial contaminants
Landfills and Dumps	2	Н	01S, 02S	Seepage of leachate
Military Facilities (Past And Present)	3	Н	01S, 02S	Spills, leaks, or improper handling or storage of pesticides and herbicides, fuel, chemicals and other materials; may include ordnance or waste landfill/dump

Land Uses	Quantity	Threat	Zone C Source ID#	Potential Contaminant Sources*	
Miscellaneous					
Oil or Hazardous Material Sites	4		01S, 02S	Tier Classified Oil or Hazardous Materials Sites are not ranked due to their site-specific character. Individual sites are identified in Appendix B.	
Road and Maintenance Depots	1	M	02S	Spills, leaks, or improper handling or storage of de-icing materials, automotive fluids, fuel storage, and other chemicals	
Schools, Colleges, and Universities	2	M	02S	Spills, leaks, or improper handling or storage of fuel oil, laboratory, art, photographic, machine shop, and other chemicals	
Small Quantity Hazardous Waste Generators	1	M	02S	Spills, leaks, or improper handling or storage of hazardous materials and waste	
Stormwater Drains/ Retention Basins	1	L	02S	Debris, pet waste, and chemicals in stormwater from roads, parking lots, and lawns	
Transmission Line Rights-of-Way: <u>electric</u>	1	L	01S, 02S	Construction and corridor maintenance, over-application or improper handling of herbicides	
Transportation Corridors	1	M	02S	Accidental leaks or spills of fuels and other hazardous materials, over-application or improper handling of pesticides	
Underground Storage Tanks	1	Н	02S	Spills, leaks, or improper handling of stored materials	
Very Small Quantity Hazardous Waste Generators	2	L	02S	Spills, leaks, or improper handling or storage of hazardous materials and waste	
Wastewater Treatment Plant/ Collection Facility/ Lagoon	1	M	02S	Improper handling or storage of treatment chemicals or equipment maintenance materials; improper management of wastewater	
Water Treatment Sludge Lagoons	1	М	02S	Improper management of sludge and wastewater	

Notes:

- 1. When specific potential contaminants are not known, typical potential contaminants or activities for that type of land use are listed. Facilities within the watershed may not contain all of these potential contaminant sources, may contain other potential contaminant sources, or may use Best Management Practices to prevent contaminants from reaching drinking water supplies.
- 2. For more information on regulated facilities, refer to Appendix B: Regulated Facilities within the Water Supply Protection Area information about these potential sources of contamination.
- 3. For information about Oil or Hazardous Materials Sites in your protection areas, refer to Appendix C: Tier Classified Oil and/or Hazardous Material Sites.
- * THREAT RANKING The rankings (high, moderate or low) represent the relative threat of each land use compared to other PSCs. The ranking of a particular PSC is based on a number of factors, including: the type and quantity of chemicals typically used or generated by the PSC; the characteristics of the contaminants (such as toxicity, environmental fate and transport); and the behavior and mo bility of the pollutants in soils and groundwater.

- ✓ Promote Best Management Practices (BMPs) for fuel oil storage, hazardous material handling, storage, disposal, and emergency response planning.
- ✓ Work with farmers and nurseries to ensure that pesticides and fertilizers are being stored within a structure designed to prevent runoff.
- **6. Presence of Oil or Hazardous Material Contamination Site** The water supply protection area contains four MADEP Tier Classified Oil and/or Hazardous Material Release Site indicated on the map as Release Tracking Numbers 3-0003833, 3-0020078, 3-0020682 and 3-0021613. Refer to the attached map and Appendix C for more information.

Oil or Hazardous Material Contamination Sites Recommendation:

- Monitor progress on any ongoing remedial action conducted for the known oil or contamination site.
- **7. Protection Planning** Protection planning protects drinking water by managing the land area that supplies water to a well or reservoir. The Town of Cohasset amended its Water Resource District Zoning Overlay District, and adopted Zone A land use controls to meet DEP's Surface Water Protection regulations 310 CMR 22.20 (b) and (c). Surface Water Supply Protection Plans coordinate community efforts, identify protection strategies, establish a timeframe for implementation, and provide a forum for public participation. There are resources available to help communities develop plans for protecting drinking water supply sources.

Protection Planning Recommendations:

✓ Work with town boards to review and provide recommendations on proposed development within your water supply protection areas. To obtain information on build-out analyses for the town, see the Executive Office of Environmental Affairs' community preservation web site, http://commpres.env.state.ma.us/.

Top 5 Reasons to Develop a Local Surface Water Protection Plan

- Reduces Risk to Human Health
- **②** Cost Effective! Reduces or Eliminates Costs Associated With:
- Increased monitoring and treatment
- Water supply clean up and remediation
- Replacing a water supply
- Purchasing water
- Supports municipal bylaws, making them less likely to be challenged
- Ensures clean drinking water supplies for future generations
- **9** Enhances real estate values clean drinking water is a local amenity. A community known for its great drinking water in a place people want to live and businesses want to locate.

Other land uses and activities within the water supply protection areas that are potential sources of contamination are included in Table 2. Refer to Appendix B for more information about these land uses. Identifying potential sources of contamination is an important initial step in protecting your drinking water sources. Further local investigation will provide more in-depth information and may identify new land uses and activities that are potential sources of contamination.

Once potential sources of contamination are identified, specific recommendations like those below should be used to better protect your water supply.

Section 3: Source Water Protection Conclusions and Recommendations

Current Land Uses and Source Protection:

As with many water supply protection areas, the system's watersheds contain potential sources of contamination. However, source protection measures reduce the risk of actual contamination, as illustrated in Figure 2. The water supplier is commended for taking an active role in promoting source protection measures in the Water Supply Protection Areas through:

- Mapping storm drains for the purpose of prioritizing locations for Phase II stormwater management.
- Conducting a study on the health of Lily Pond.
- Taking preliminary steps to develop a lawn care program.

Source Protection Recommendations:

To better protect the sources for the future:

- ✓ Educate residents on ways they can help you to protect drinking water sources.
- ✓ Inspect Zone As regularly, and when feasible, remove any prohibited activities.
- ✓ Work with emergency response teams to ensure that they are aware of the stormwater drainage in your watershed and to cooperate on responding to spills or accidents.
- ✓ Partner with local businesses to ensure the proper storage, handling, and disposal of hazardous materials.

Table 3: Current Protection and Recommendations

Protection Measures	Status	Recommendations			
Zone A					
Does the Public Water Supplier (PWS) own or control the entire Zone A?	Approximately 54% of the combined Zone As is owned or controlled	practices to reduce the use and release of hazardous			
Is the Zone A posted with "Public Drinking Water Supply" Signs?	YES	Additional economical signs are available from the Northeast Rural Water Association (802) 660-4988.			
Is the Zone A regularly inspected?	NO	Implement daily inspections of drinking water protection areas.			
Are water supply-related activities the only activities within the Zone A?	NO	Monitor prohibited activities in Zone A, and investigate options for removing these activities.			
Municipal Controls (Zoning Bylaws, Hea	lth Regulations, and	General Bylaws)			
Does the municipality have Surface Water Protection Controls that meet 310 CMR 22.20C?	Adopted	Submit land use controls to DEP for review and approval. For more information, contact Kathy Romero at (617) 292-5727.			
Do neighboring communities protect the water supply protection areas extending into their communities?	Some	Work with the Town of Hingham to include Cohasset's watershed in their protection controls. Submit land use controls adopted by Norwell and Situate to DEP for review.			
Planning					
Does the PWS have a local surface water protection plan?	YES	Approved by DEP June 2002. Implement surface water supply protection plan. Follow "Developing a Local Surface Water Supply Protection Plan" available at: www.state.ma. us/dep/brp/dws/.			
Does the PWS have a formal "Emergency Response Plan" to deal with spills or other emergencies?	YES	Supplement plan by developing a joint emergency response plan with fire department, Board of Health, DPW, and local and state emergency officials. Coordinate emergency response drills with local teams.			
Does the municipality have a watershed protection committee?	YES (not active)	Reconvene committee with representatives from citizens' groups, neighboring communities, and the business community.			
Does the Board of Health conduct inspections of commercial and industrial activities?	NO	For more guidance see "Hazardous Materials Management: A Community's Guide" at www.state.ma.us/ dep/brp/dws/files/hazmat.doc			
Does the PWS provide watershed protection education?	SOME	Increase residential outreach through bill stuffers, school programs, Drinking Water Week activities, and coordination with local groups. Aim additional efforts at commercial, industrial and municipal uses within the Zone C.			

- Monitor progress on any ongoing remedial action conducted for the known oil or contamination sites.
- ✓ Work with farmers in your protection areas to make them aware of your water supply and to encourage the use of a NRCS farm plan to protect water supplies.
- ✓ Implement the town's Surface Water Protection Plan.

Conclusions:

These recommendations are only part of your ongoing local drinking water source protection. Additional source protection recommendations are listed in Table 3, the Key Issues above and Appendix A.

DEP staff, informational documents, and resources are available to help you build on this SWAP report as you continue to improve drinking water protection in your community.

The Department's Wellhead Protection Grant Program and Source Protection Grant Program provide funds to assist public water suppliers in addressing water supply source protection through local projects. Protection recommendations discussed in this document may be eligible for funding under the Grant Program.

Additional Documents:

To help with source protection efforts, more information is available by request or online at www.state.ma.us/dep/brp/dws including:

- 1. Water Supply Protection Guidance Materials such as model regulations, Best Management Practice information, and general water supply protection information.
- 2. MA DEP SWAP Strategy
- 3. Land Use Pollution Potential Matrix
- 4. Draft Land/Associated Contaminants Matrix

The assessment and protection recommendations in this SWAP report are provided as a tool to encourage community discussion, support ongoing source protection efforts, and help set local drinking water protection priorities. Citizens and community officials should use this SWAP report to spur discussion of local drinking water protection measures. The water supplier should supplement this SWAP report with local information on potential sources of contamination and land uses. Local information should be maintained and updated periodically to reflect land use changes in the watershed and Zone II. Use this information to set priorities, target inspections, focus education efforts, and to develop a long-term drinking water source protection plan.

Section 4: Appendices

- A. Regulated Facilities within the Water Supply Protection Area
- B. Table of Tier Classified Oil and/or Hazardous Material Sites within the Water Supply Protection Areas
- C. Additional Documents on Source Protection

For More Information

Contact Anita Wolovick in DEP's NERO at (617) 654-6535 for more information and assistance on improving current protection measures.

Copies of this report have been provided to the public water supplier, town boards, and the local media.

APENDIX A: DEP PERMITTED FACILITIES WITHIN COHASSET WATER SUPPLY PROTECTION AREAS

DEP FACILITY NUMBER	FACILITY NAME	STREET ADDRESS	TOWN	PERMITTED ACTIVITY	ACTIVITY CLASS
340164	BROWNS FOREIGN IMPORTS	574 CHIEF JUSTICE CUSHING HIGHWAY	COHASSET	HANDLER	VERY SMALL QUANTITY GENERATOR - WASTE OIL/PCBS ONLY
340105	COHASSET IMPORTS INC.	508 CHIEF JUSTICE CUSHING HIGHWAY	COHASSET	HANDLER	VERY SMALL QUANTITY GENERATOR
340105	COHASSET IMPORTS INC.	508 CHIEF JUSTICE CUSHING HIGHWAY	COHASSET	HANDLER	SMALL QUANTITY GENERATOR - WASTE OIL/PCBS ONLY
5172	COHASSET WATER TREATMENT PLANT	339 KING ST	COHASSET	SURFACE DISCHARGE	SURFACEWATER MINOR

UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANKS WITHIN COHASSET WATER SUPPLY PROTECTION AREAS

FACILITY NAME	ADDRESS	TOWN	DESCRIPTION	CAP ACITY (GAL)	CONTENTS
NONE NOTED					

For more information on underground storage tanks, visit the Massachusetts department of fire services web site: http://www.state.ma.us/dfs/ust/usthome.htm

Note: This appendix includes only those facilities within the water supply protection area(s) that meet state reporting requirements and report to the appropriate agencies. Additional facilities located within the water supply protection area(s) should be considered in local drinking water source protection planning.

APPENDIX B – Table of Tier Classified Oil and/or Hazardous Material Sites within Cohasset Water Supply Protection Areas

DEP's datalayer depicting oil and/or hazardous material (OHM) sites is a statewide point data set that contains the approximate location of known sources of contamination that have been both reported and classified under Chapter 21E of the Massachusetts General Laws. Location types presented in the layer include the approximate center of the site, the center of the building on the property where the release occurred, the source of contamination, or the location of an on-site monitoring well. Although this assessment identifies OHM sites near the source of your drinking water, the risks to the source posed by each site may be different. The kind of contaminant and the local geology may have an effect on whether the site poses an actual or potential threat to the source.

The DEP's Chapter 21E program relies on licensed site professionals (LSPs) to oversee cleanups at most sites, while the DEP's Bureau of Waste Site Cleanup (BWSC) program retains oversight at the most serious sites. This privatized program obliges potentially responsible parties and LSPs to comply with DEP regulations (the Massachusetts Contingency Plan – MCP), which require that sites within drinking water source protection areas be cleaned up to drinking water standards.

For more information about the state's OHM site cleanup process to which these sites are subject and how this complements the drinking water protection program, please visit the BWSC web page at http://www.state.ma.us/dep/bwsc. You may obtain site -specific information two ways: by using the BWSC Searchable Sites database at http://:www.state.ma.us/dep/bwsc/sitellst.htm, or you may visit the DEP regional office and review the site file. These files contain more detailed information, including cleanup status, site history, contamination levels, maps, correspondence and investigation reports, however you must call the regional office in order to schedule an appointment to view the file.

The table below contains the list of Tier Classified oil and/or Hazardous Material Release Sites that are located within your drinking water source protection area.

Table 1: Bureau of Waste Site Cleanup Tier Classified Oil and/or Hazardous Material Release Sites (Chapter 21E Sites) - Listed by Release Tracking Number (RTN).

RTN	Release Site Address	Town	Contaminant Type
3-0003833	Leavitt St Hingham Annex	Hingham	Oil and Hazardous Material
3-0020078	Doane St.	Cohasset	Hazardous Material
3-0020682	Union St. Wompatuck State Park	Hingham	Hazardous Material
3-0021613	Crocker Lane	Cohasset	Oil

For more location information, please see the attached map. The map lists the release sites by Release Tracking Number (RTN).